

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 662

By Berke

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. Deene Russ  
Leventhal of Chattanooga.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Dr. Deene Russ Leventhal; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Leventhal was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Deene Leventhal practiced orthodontics in Chattanooga from 1954 until his retirement in 1993; he was a highly regarded member of his profession, garnering the respect of his colleagues as well as his patients and their families; and

WHEREAS, born October 3, 1927, in Chattanooga, Deene Leventhal was the son of the late Marvin N. Leventhal and Ida Russ Leventhal; he attended Missionary Ridge Elementary School and graduated from the Baylor School in 1944 when he was only sixteen years old; and

WHEREAS, he began attending the Georgia Institute of Technology in June 1944, but after only a quarter of instruction, he decided to serve his country instead, and enlisted in the United States Naval Air Corps; and

WHEREAS, after his discharge from Flight School in 1946, Mr. Leventhal resumed his civilian education at the University of Chattanooga, from which he received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1949; he then attended the University of Tennessee Dental School, earning his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in 1952 and his Post Graduate degree in 1954; and

WHEREAS, as a dental school student, Dr. Leventhal distinguished himself as a leader among his peers; he served as President of his class, and he was a member of both the Dean's Honorary Odontological Society and the Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, Garrison Siskin contacted Dr. Leventhal and asked him to assist in the establishment of a dental clinic at the Siskin 365 Club; Dr. Leventhal was instrumental in staffing and equipping the clinic; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to the highest standards of the dental profession, Dr. Deene Leventhal was a member of the College of Diplomats of the American Board of Orthodontics; as a Diplomat, he achieved the highest level of competence attainable in the field of orthodontics; and

WHEREAS, a valued member of several professional organizations, Dr. Leventhal served as President of both the Third District Dental Society and the Tennessee Association of Orthodontists; he also belonged to the Tennessee Dental Association, the Tennessee Dental Society of Orthodontists, the Southern Society of Orthodontists, the American Dental Association, and the American Association of Orthodontists. Dr. Leventhal was a Fellow of the International College of Dentists as well; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his many professional contributions, he received the Tennessee Dental Association Fellowship Award for Distinguished Service; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Deene Leventhal was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Leventhal enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of fifty-five years, Mickey Levine Leventhal, who survives him; he will be sorely missed by his son and daughter-in-law, Dr. Marvin Russ Leventhal and Dr. Kris Leventhal; his daughter and son-in-law Robin Leventhal Piper and Rob Piper; and his brother-in-law, Abe Levine; and

WHEREAS, he is also survived by three grandchildren, Coleman Russ, Olivia Leventhal, and Rebekah Leventhal; two nephews, Michael Leventhal and David Leventhal; and three nieces, Janis Leventhal Barrali, Mindy Leventhal, and Sharon Levine; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Deene Leventhal was preceded in death by his brother, Stanley L. Leventhal; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Leventhal leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional professional and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Dr. Deene Russ Leventhal, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Dr. Leventhal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.